

## CLAIMS

I claim:

1. (currently amended) An adjustable tie strap, comprising:

- (a) an elongated narrow web having first and second ends;
- (b) said web having a first edge and a second edge extending from said first and second ends,  
said web having between said edges and said ends including on a surface thereof a plurality of spaced  
apart ratchet teeth each ratchet teeth having a base and an upper tooth surface said base of said teeth  
forming a substantially closed surface between said edges and said ends;
- (c) said first end including a fastener having ~~[[a]]~~ an aperture;
- (d) said fastener including a pawl positioned to engage one of said teeth to prevent withdrawal of said web from said fastener when said second end is inserted through said aperture; and
- (e) a release tab coupled with said fastener for flexing said fastener to disengage said pawl from said one of said teeth for releasing said web from said fastener.

2. (currently amended) The tie strap as set forth in claim 1, wherein: (a) said web includes a plurality of spaced apart holes formed therethrough, said holes being sized such that said pawl cannot be recieved  
by said hole.

3. (currently amended) The tie strap as set forth in claim 1, wherein: (a) said ratchet teeth are protrusions oriented transverse to said web.

4. (previously presented) The tie strap as set forth in claim 1, wherein: (a) said fastener is integral with said first web end.

5. (currently amended) The tie strap as set forth in claim 1, wherein: (a) said fastener includes a flexible tongue; and (b) said pawl is located on said tongue said pawl being substantially the same width as said teeth.

6. (previously presented) The tie strap as set forth in claim 5, further including: (a) an anchor tab extending from said fastener in spaced relation to said release tab.

7. (currently amended) An adjustable tie strap, comprising:

(a) an elongated narrow web having first and second ends and a top surface and a bottom surface;

(b) said web including on a surface thereof a plurality of spaced apart ratchet teeth;

(c) said first end including a fastener having an aperture, said aperture being disposed such that when said second end of said web passes through said aperture said bottom surface of said web contacts said top surface of said web;

(d) said fastener including a pawl positioned to engage one of said teeth to prevent withdrawal of said web from said fastener when said second end is inserted through said aperture; and

(e) a release tab and an anchor tab positioned in spaced relation coupled with said fastener, and said release tab being positioned to flex said fastener to disengage said pawl from said one of said

teeth for releasing said web from said fastener.

8. (currently amended) The tie strap as set forth in claim 7, wherein: (a) said web includes a plurality of spaced apart holes formed therethrough, said holes being sized such that said pawl cannot be received by said hole.

9. (currently amended) The tie strap as set forth in claim 7, wherein:

(a) said fastener includes a top wall, a bottom wall and a pair of side walls;

(b) said top wall being disposed parallel to said elongated narrow web, said top wall further including includes a flexible tongue; and

(c) said pawl is located on said tongue.

10. (currently amended) A strap fastener mechanism for joining a first strap portion with a second strap portion having at least one ratchet tooth positioned on a surface thereof, and comprising:

(a) an aperture and a pawl positioned to engage said tooth and to prevent withdrawal of said second strap portion from said fastener mechanism, said aperture being formed by a top surface and bottom surface said surface being disposed in a direction parallel to the surface of the first strap portion;

(b) a release tab coupled with said fastener for flexing said fastener to disengage said pawl from said tooth for releasing said second strap portion from said fastener mechanism.

11. (currently amended) The fastener mechanism as set forth in claim 10, wherein: (a) said fastener

includes a flexible tongue; and (b) said pawl is located on said tongue, said pawl being substantially the same width as said ratchet teeth.

12. (previously presented) The fastener mechanism as set forth in claim 10, further including: (a) an anchor tab extending from said fastener in spaced relation to said release tab.

13. (previously presented) A flexible tie strap, comprising:

(a) an elongated narrow web having first and second ends;

(b) said web including a plurality of spaced apart holes formed therethrough;

(c) said web including on a surface thereof a plurality of spaced apart ratchet teeth oriented transverse to said web;

(c) said first end including an integral fastener having a top wall, a bottom wall, a pair of side walls and an aperture therethrough;

(d) said top wall including an aperture and a flexible tongue;

(d) said tongue including a pawl positioned to engage one of said teeth to prevent withdrawal of said web from said fastener when said second end is inserted through said aperture; and

(e) a release tab and an anchor tab positioned in spaced relation coupled with said fastener, and said release tab being positioned to flex said fastener to disengage said pawl from said one of said teeth for releasing said web from said fastener.

14. (new) An adjustable tie strap, comprising:

- (a) an elongated narrow web having first and second ends;
- (b) said web having a first edge and a second edge extending from said first and second ends;
- (c) said first end including a fastener having an aperture;
- (d) said fastener including a pawl positioned to engage one of a plurality of teeth to prevent withdrawal of said web from said fastener when said second end is inserted through said aperture;
- (e) each of said ratchet teeth having a base and an upper tooth surface forming an acute angle with said base; and
- (f) a release tab coupled with said fastener for flexing said fastener to disengage said pawl from said one of said teeth for releasing said web from said fastener.

15. (new) The tie strap as set forth in claim 14, wherein: (a) said web includes a plurality of spaced apart holes formed therethrough said holes having a diameter at least smaller than one half the width of the pawl..

16. (new) The adjustable strap of claim 14 further comprising and said edges thereof a plurality of spaced apart ratchet teeth each of said ratchet teeth having a base a body portion and an upper tooth surface each of said body portions forming an acute angle with said base.

17. (new) The tie strap as set forth in claim 7, wherein said ratchet teeth comprise a shoulder side and a ramp side, said shoulder side being generally orthogonal to the web and faces said fastener while said sloped ramp side faces said second end.